

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the ABSTRACT at page 25 as follows:

A routing method for a multiplex system implements the following operations: For the data, multiplexing N input channels each having M multiplexed packets to generate an aggregate multiplex signal comprising all data packets representing the N input multiplexes. For each of N' outputs, providing the inputs of M+L parallel selection chains with access to the aggregate multiplexed signal. For input headers, performing demodulation and decoding. For output headers, performing encoding and modulation on the basis of the demodulated and decoded input headers. For the headers and the data, selecting from n of M+L selection chains corresponding to the k<sup>th</sup> output on the basis of the input headers corresponding to n packets that are to be routed to the k<sup>th</sup> of the N' outputs, the corresponding n data packets in the aggregate multiplexed signal and multiplexing these n data packets with an output header to generate the k<sup>th</sup> output multiplex.